

[29 November, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

1	2	3
21.	Madhubani	4225
22.	Munger	1460
23.	Muzaffarpur	4322
24.	Nalanda	3473
25.	Nawada	2045
26.	Patna	4424
27.	Purnia	2662
28.	Rohtas	2810
29.	Sahrsa	1871
30.	Samastipur	3679
31.	Shekhpura	772
32.	Sheohar	740
33.	Sitamarhi	2463
34.	Siwan	3158
35.	Supaul	1955
36.	Vaishali	3080
37.	West Champaran	3665
TOTAL:		96401

Funds utilization under ARWSP

844. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pace of utilization of funds under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme is too slow and unlikely to meet the deadline set for 100 per cent coverage of all habitations in the country with safe potable water;

(b) which States that lag behind in utilizing allocated funds under the ARWSP and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether second instalment of funds under the various RD programmes is unlikely to be released for want of compliance reports from the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) Drinking water is a State subject. Therefore, State Governments are primarily responsible to provide drinking water facilities in the rural habitations. The Central Government, however, supplements the efforts of the State Governments in this direction by providing financial and technical support through a centrally sponsored scheme namely Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Under Bharat Nirman programme (2005-09) priority is to be given to coverage of uncovered habitations and to address problems of quality affected habitations as well as slippages from fully covered status. The allocation under ARWSP is based on well-defined parameters viz., rural population, geographical conditions, number of NC/PC habitations and water quality status. However, the State Governments are empowered to plan implement and utilize the ARWSP funds for various schemes at their level through the State Level Sanctioning Committee. As per the ARWSP guidelines the States are required to submit proposals for release of second instalment after having utilized 60% of their available funds by December end. Based on the past experience, it is seen that all the States are able to obtain their second instalment under ARWSP in the given financial year.

(c) As stated before, the States are supposed to submit proposals for release of second instalment after having utilized 60% of their funds by December, 2006 end. As on date four States viz. Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Mizoram and U.P. have already submitted their proposals for release of second instalment in respect of ARWSP.